

Anniversary Forum

EUROPE AT A CROSSROADS: LOOKING BACK TO MOVE FORWARD

10 – 11 June 2024

The Anniversary Forum sheds light on good governance at a time of major political upheaval. As the University of Governance in Berlin is dedicated to providing a European perspective on global debates, the Hertie School seeks to explore how Europe must address the twin challenge of polarisation of society and geopolitical fragmentation. Moreover, in this context of internal and external challenges, what is the place of higher education and research as well as academic freedom?

Monday, 10 June 2024

15:30

Registration

16:00

Welcome

- **Annette Schavan**
Chair Executive Board; Hertie Foundation
- **Cornelia Woll**
President; Hertie School

16:20 –
18:00

Panel: Polarisation and the decay of political order

In 2024, more voters than ever in history are eligible to participate in elections around the globe. While many countries do not guarantee fair and free elections, long-established liberal democracies also find themselves in disarray. Digital disinformation campaigns, the perceived loss of prosperity, and feelings of alienation from politics are only a few phenomena that have contributed to growing acceptance of populist and even extremist positions. This panel outlines the causes and trajectories of polarisation and the waning political order, and debates how trust in government and faith in democracy can be restored.

Moderated by **Andrea Römmele**, Vice President; Hertie School

- **Francis Fukuyama**
Professor of Political Science; Stanford University
- **Jens Spahn**



Understand today. Shape tomorrow.

Member of the German Bundestag and Deputy Chair of the CDU/CSU
Parliamentary Group

- **Catherine E. De Vries**
Dean of International Affairs and Professor of Political Science; Bocconi
University

Tuesday, 11 June 2024

09:00 **Registration and light breakfast**

09:30 – 11:00 **Panel: Autonomy in a fragmented world**

The international order is undergoing profound changes, a “Zeitenwende” that will affect the security strategy of Germany and Europe. Military threats are intimately linked to economic interdependence and cannot be solved without considering the energy and digital transitions. As the world is at the risk for fracturing into spaces marked by liberal democratic values and autocracies, the need for alliances remains paramount. At the same time, strategic partnerships become more volatile, as domestic politics can threaten the stability of foreign policy even in the traditional Western alliances. This panel discusses how these geopolitical developments shape European values and the search for strategic autonomy. It also explores Europe’s role and place on the world stage 20 years from now.

Moderated by **Cornelia Woll**, President; Hertie School

- **Boris Pistorius**
German Federal Minister of Defence
- **Christoph Heusgen**
Chair of the Munich Security Conference
- **Federica Mogherini**
Rector; College of Europe

11:00 **Coffee break**

11:30 – 12:30 **Student-Leaders-Dialogue**

The laureates of the student essay competition will discuss their winning ideas with a panel of experts, including:

- **Norbert Röttgen**, Member of the German Bundestag
- **Joanna Bryson**, Professor of Ethics and Technology at the Hertie School
- **Francis Fukuyama**, Professor at Stanford University
- **Thurid Hustedt**, Dean of Graduate Programmes; Hertie School.

The conversation is moderated by **Caroline Weimann**, founder and CEO of Join Politics (tbc)



12:30

Lunch break

14:00 –
15:30

Panel: Higher education and research in hard times

Universities have the mission to ensure freedom of expression and critical inquiry, shielding their faculty and students from political and economic pressures. In recent times, it has become evident that this is not an easy task. Political fault lines make higher education a battleground where universities are sometimes directly attacked, including from their own governments. Funding for universities can be made conditional on concessions to the principle of academic freedom, from private donors or public authorities alike. The impact of the war in Gaza on university campuses through Europe and the United States puts these tensions into sharp relief, not just in autocratic societies, but also in liberal democratic countries. This panel explores the challenges that universities face in times of political turmoil.

Moderated by **Mark Hallerberg**, Professor of Political Economy; Hertie School

- **Shalini Randeria**
President; Central European University
- **Joseph H. H. Weiler**
Professor of Law; New York University

15:30

Coffee break

18:00 –
19:00

Conferment of the third Henrik Enderlein Prize

Co-hosted by the Hertie School, the German and French Foreign Offices and Sciences Po

- **Anna Lührmann**, Minister of State for Europe and Climate Action; German Federal Foreign Office
- **Cornelia Woll**, President of the Jury

Closing reception

Programme updated on 15.05.2024

Register to attend:



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